

MINUTES  
Cambria County Planning Commission  
June 20, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Cambria County Planning Commission was held on Thursday, June 20, 2013, at 12 noon, at The Cottage Restaurant, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mr. Kiel.

PRESENT

Russell Kiel  
Ronald Rovansek  
Toni Renee Anderson  
Sam Valenty  
David L. Belz

ABSENT

Robert E. Fisher, Jr.  
Nicholas Persio  
Tim Whited  
Joseph McAneny

STAFF

Ethan C. Imhoff  
Christopher D. Allison  
Shanna M. Murphy

GUESTS

Brennon Eutin

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Valenty, seconded by Ms. Anderson, the minutes of the May meeting were approved. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was read by Mr. Imhoff and reviewed by those present. Mr. Imhoff noted that the Commission had received payment of \$5,000 from the Redevelopment Authority, the final local share for the update of the Cambria County Comprehensive Plan. There being no questions on the report, Mr. Belz made a motion that the June Treasurer's Report and the bills listed for payment be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Anderson and passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Imhoff stated that there was no significant correspondence to be read at this meeting.

STATUS REPORTS

Executive Director

Mr. Imhoff reported that he had met with representatives of Carrolltown and Northern Cambria boroughs to discuss the ongoing

preparation of the Route 219 Corridor Plan. Mr. Imhoff explained that with the construction of Route 219 north from Carrolltown as a four-lane, limited-access highway highly unlikely anytime soon, he has been encouraging local officials and the general public to identify projects in the corridor municipalities that can be accomplished in a five to ten year time frame. Mr. Imhoff explained that he would be conducting community forums in early July to identify and discuss such projects. He noted that, in an effort to promote participation in the upcoming community forums, Commission staff had designed an informative flyer advertising the events. A brief discussion was held regarding the Route 219 Plan and the Sunset Road improvements to Route 36.

Mr. Imhoff informed those present that he has been researching alternative options for the CCPC's pension plan. He noted that Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System recently presented their plan and services to the staff. Mr. Imhoff stated that he would keep the board apprised of the information he collects and the staff preferences regarding this initiative.

Mr. Imhoff noted that he continues to review and provide advisory comments on municipal subdivision and planning modules. He noted that he has been appointed to a grant review committee for the Southern Alleghenies Greenway Mini Grant Program. He explained that the program provides grants from \$1,000 - \$25,000 to organizations that implement bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects consistent with local greenways plans.

#### Transportation

Mr. Allison stated that in addition to the regular administrative and coordination activities involved with the Unified Planning Work Program, he had attended several workshops and conferences during May.

Mr. Allison stated that work has been continuing on the local bridge inventory. He indicated that hand-held computer devices have facilitated data collection and progress has been reviewed on PennDOT's online data collection map.

Mr. Allison reported that staff continues to coordinate and review the County's interchange lighting repairs with Barclay Electric. Mr. Allison apprised those present of recent activities regarding the County Bridge Inspection Program, also coordinated by Planning Commission staff. He stated that each of the sixteen statements of interest received for the Wildwood Bridge Replacement Project were reviewed and evaluated based on PennDOT-recommended criteria. Based on this evaluation, The EADS Group was selected as the contractor for bridge replacement. Mr. Allison noted that the County Commissioners executed the reimbursement agreement for this project and the Planning Commission was given authorization to sign all invoices and documents related to the project.

#### Community Development Planning

Ms. Murphy stated that work has been continuing on local bridge data collection for the Local Transportation Asset Inventory.

She reported that staff has visited and collected data for all pertinent bridges in Planning Region 3.

Ms. Murphy reported that, in response to a request from the County Conservation District, staff visited the Path of the Flood trail currently under construction in Franklin Borough. She explained that as part of the planning process for this section of the trail, drainage pipes were examined and measured to insure proper drainage prior to continued construction activities.

Ms. Murphy stated that she attended a pilot session of a course on full-depth reclamation. She explained that the purpose of the session was to garner feedback on course content and presentation prior to presenting the information at an "official" LTAP workshop.

Ms. Murphy briefly apprised the board of the various project reviews completed during the past month. These reviews included two surface mine permit applications, a funding application for a fishing pond in Jackson Township, and an application from the Forest Hills School District for construction of a new middle/high school.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Kiel noted that there was no "Old Business" to discuss at this meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Imhoff requested the board to consider hosting a summer intern. He explained that the prospective intern, Brennon Eutin, is a senior at UPJ and has volunteered his time to gain experience in his field of study. Mr. Imhoff also noted that Mr. Eutin's time would be split between the CCPC and the County GIS department. Mr. Imhoff was requested to investigate if an unpaid intern would be covered by the Commission's worker's compensation insurance. At this time, Mr. Imhoff introduced Mr. Eutin to those present. Mr. Rovansek made a motion that Brennon Eutin be approved as a summer intern. The motion was seconded by Mr. Belz and passed unanimously.

Mr. Imhoff noted that Shanna Murphy has been employed with the Commission for six months and is eligible for a salary increase. Based on her performance, the CCPC Personnel Manual, and the terms of her hire, Mr. Imhoff recommended that Ms. Murphy be given a \$600 salary increase. Mr. Belz made a motion to approve a salary increase of \$600 for Shanna Murphy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rovansek and passed unanimously.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Rovansek stated that Tom Prestash, District Executive, PennDOT District 9-0, indicated to him that a balance of approximately \$600,000 remains in the funding allocation for the recently-completed Goucher Street safety improvement project. Mr. Rovansek indicated that he questioned Mr. Prestash about the possibility of utilizing the remaining funds for construction of sidewalks along Goucher Street in the area locally referred to as "the dip." Mr. Prestash indicated that the money could be utilized for this purpose, however, the Lower Yoder

Township Supervisors would have to be in agreement with the project. Mr. Rovansek stated that currently the Lower Yoder Township Supervisors are not in favor of the project citing that there are no sidewalks anywhere else in the township and they do not want to maintain the sidewalk in future years. It was noted that future maintenance by the township is also a condition of PennDOT funding the project. Mr. Rovansek recommended the CCPC advise the Lower Yoder Township Supervisors of its opinion of the project, which is generally favorable. Mr. Imhoff stated that he will review the project and determine if it would be advisable for the Commission to weigh in on the issue.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Valenty, seconded by Mr. Belz. Motion passed unanimously.